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February 24, 1948

Mr. Charles B. Marks, Jr.
Borough Secretary
Borough of Hatboro
Hatboro, Pennsylvania

Gentlemen:

We have pending with the State Sanitary Water Board an application involving discharge of completely treated industrial wastes to the existing storm sewer from the proposed plant of the Penn Rivet and Machine Company. Our reports covering our study and investigation, supplemented by detailed plans of the proposed waste treatment works, are appended to this letter. As you will note, the maximum discharge of industrial wastes is estimated to be 5,000 gallons per day and these wastes to be completely treated and checked by analysis prior to discharge. The plant is designed for discharging the daily treated wastes over a period approximating 24 hours, to the storm sewer on the Penn Rivet property. The storm sewer, as you are aware, is partly an open surface stream, passing through private property in its course to where it discharges to Pennypack Creek. It appears that little, if any, dry weather flow is present, at least in the upper reaches near the Penn Rivet property.

Due consideration has been given these facts in preparing the design of the waste treatment works. Although we believe the sanitary water board will react favorably to our application for permission to discharge the treated wastes to the storm sewer and hence to Pennypack Creek, further consideration warrants our request for permission to discharge the completely treated wastes to the sanitary sewerage system. The fact that the maximum daily discharge is estimated to be 5000 gallons, controlled for discharge over a 24 hour period, and is completely treated, would create very little additional load on the sewerage system or on the municipal sewage treatment facilities.

The untreated wastes from a plating plant such as to be installed by the Penn Rivet and Machine Company usually contains cyanide wastes in low concentrations. Cyanide being a toxic salt, it is necessary to effect complete removal or oxidation of this material in the waste treatment process. Although

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suitable tests for control and plant flexibility will be available at the proposed plant, there is the human element of operation required. It is within the realm of possibility, due to the human factors involved that at occasional times a small amount of improperly treated wastes could enter the storm sewer. With little or no diluting water available in the storm sewer during the dry season, these few gallons of wastes could conceivably pool in the open ditch and be available for dogs or fowl to drink and even possible for children to play in. The route of the stream through private property makes this a possibility.

We request therefore your consideration for permitting the discharge of the completely treated wastes from the Penn Rivet and Machine Company proposed plant, to the sanitary sewerage system where ample dilution of any small volumes of wastes would be effected and the possibility of these wastes pooling in an open ditch would be eliminated. If the storm sewer were completely underground to its junction with Pennypack Creek, this request for discharge to the sanitary sewerage system would not be necessary.

In order to protect the municipal interest, we suggest that in addition to the regular sewer rentals, that the Penn Rivet Company be required to furnish your office with a daily log showing volumes of treated wastes discharged and the analytical data assuring complete treatment of all wastes.

The wastes as discharged from the treatment plant, and as shown in the analytical section of our report, will be suitable for discharge to a sanitary sewerage system and will in no way affect the operation of the existing sewage treatment plant.

Our client and his engineers will be pleased to meet with you and other interested parties for further discussion of our request and we assure you that our request is based solely in the interest of overall public health protection.

Your consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated by the Penn Rivet and Machine Company.

Very truly yours,

W. H. and L. D. BETZ

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PHILADELPHIA OFFICE

Max U. Priester
Assistant Director
Consulting Division

MUP/TH
Encl.
cc/ Mr. V. B. Bradford
Mr. George Hebus

En
J.G. Mallon

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